THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Some militant activities were reported in the past in some protected areas like Dudhwa, Corbett, Kanha, Indravathi, Manas and Nagarjun Sagar, which were not conducive to Wildlife Conservation. However, the situation is gradually being brought under control.

(c) Assistance is being provided to the States for purchase of arms and ammunitions, communication equipment, vehicles, legal support etc. to the extent of available resources under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Besides, eco-development schemes are also being implemented in the fringe areas of protected areas to benefit local people and seek their co-operation and support for protection enforcement. However, the rate of convinction of wildlife offence cases are slow and the details of which are maintained by the states.

Dumping of toxic wastes by developed countries in India

1277. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the country has become the dumping ground for disposal of toxic wastes generated by industries in developed countries;

(b) the names of toxic wastes being dumped in the country and from which country;

(c) whether it is a fact that these wastes pose a threat to human healh and are an environment hazard; and

(d) the steps Government contemplate to check this practice; if not, altogether ban it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). As per the information available no such cases of dumping of toxic wastes have been defected.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government of India have notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. According to these rules import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal. However, import of such wastes may be allowed for processing or re-use as raw materials, after examining each case on merit.

Closure of polluting industrial units

1278. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of industrial units have been closed due to their failure in controlling industrial pollution;

(b) if so, the number of such units during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the industry to which these units mainly related to; and

(d) the number of the units that are now functioning after fulfilling the pollution control requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board is, monitoring 1551 large and medium scale units identified under 17 categories of highly polluting industries. Of these units being monitored, the numbers closed during the last three years for reasons which include failure to con-